

COPY
ER 8630

17 March 1948

My dear Mr. Hamberger:

I thank you for your letter of March 15th
which I am sending to someone in the government,
who, I think, will be interested to read it.

I appreciate your offer of service
and will have it in mind.

Very sincerely yours,

James Forrestal

W. L. Hamberger, Esq.

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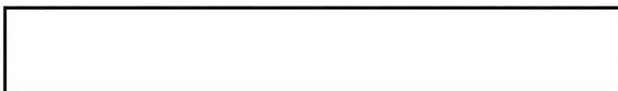
JF:FJT

MEMO FOR RECORD:

Forwarded to DCI with note "I would like to speak to you
about this letter. J.F." dated 17 March.

LIFE
LOVE
HEALTH
HAPPINESS

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March 15, 1948

My dear Mr. Secretary of Defense:

You may know who I am after stating that I married Marie E. Briggs of Beacon, N.Y. (Matteawan at that time).

You attended Dartmouth or Princeton and during vacations stopped in at Maple street occasionally.

History has been made since, much has changed and happened, two great wars have been fought, won and lost. The final treaties of the second war are not signed and preparations are being made for the third.

You were selected to head the most important department of our government. Your responsibilities are great, grave and extremely important. You, no doubt, have all the physical assistance possible. There are other factors which an outsider may supply. I followed both wars carefully, studied motives, causes and effects. Circumstances and facts do look different when seen from other angles.

When the late General Patton crossed the Rhine I felt that American forces would be fighting the Russians in Germany before any treaty is signed with Germany. You know better than anyone else how right or wrong I may be.

The recent public releases of German-Russian secret treaties made prior to Germany's invasion of Russia, need no further mention. You knew about them many months earlier. It is only a matter of time; time is in favor of Russia.

I am not a military man nor a politician nor looking for a job, but ready and willing to help in any way I can.

The Marshall plan is good in theory, but tends to prolong the agony. To be sure, money will help, there are other things money can not buy. Human emotion, equation and public opinion are of importance. Fundamental thoughts of mine may interest you.

Respectfully and sincerely,

W. L. HAMBERGER

Hon. James V. Forrestal
Secretary of Defense
Washington, D. C.

cy: Director, CIA

ER 8630

23 March 1948

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Mr. W. L. Hamberger



Dear Mr. Hamberger:

The Secretary of Defense, Mr. James V. Forrestal, has given me your letter of 15 March for reply. He is quite interested, as are we all, in your thoughts about the Marshall Plan and about your ideas concerning the present world situation. If you should care to communicate them to me, I can assure you that they will be carefully studied.

Thanking you for your interest, I
beg to be,

Very sincerely yours,

s/ RHH - Disp 3/24

R. H. Hillenkoetter
Rear Admiral, USN
Director of Central
Intelligence

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Distribution:
✓ Director
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Hamberger, W. L.